

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A printer in which plural types of recording material are usable, comprising:

an input section for inputting type information
5 representing a type of recording material; and
a controller for designating one printing mode in accordance with said type information, and for printing an image to said recording material in accordance with said designated printing mode.

10 2. A printer as defined in claim 1, wherein said input section includes an information recording medium for storing said type information.

3. A printer as defined in claim 2, wherein said recording material has at least one printing region, said 15 printing region being different in a shape or being positioned differently between said plural types; and
said controller processes said image for laying out said image in said printing region in accordance with said designated printing mode.

20 4. A printer as defined in claim 3, further comprising:

a printer body;
a loading slot formed in said printer body; and
a sheet supply container, set at said loading slot 25 removably, for containing said recording material, said information recording medium being secured to said sheet supply container;

wherein said input section further includes:
a first contact pattern for outputting said type 30 information from said information recording medium; and
a second contact pattern, connected with said

Sub Q2

controller, for contacting said first contact pattern in response to setting of said sheet supply container at said loading slot.

5. A printer as defined in claim 4, wherein said first
contact pattern is disposed at a front end of said sheet
supply container; and

Sub C1

said second contact pattern comprises a pin-shaped contact member disposed in said loading slot and directed toward said sheet supply container.

10. A printer as defined in claim 4, wherein said information recording medium is ROM;
further comprising a circuit board connected with said ROM and provided with said first contact pattern.

15. A printer as defined in claim 4, wherein in case of lack of reading of said type information from said input section, said controller generates an alarm signal or inhibits operation of printing.

20. A printer as defined in claim 4, wherein said printer is connectable with a display device, said display device displays said image being processed, so as to enable checking of a layout state of said image in relation to said printing region, for confirming said designated printing mode.

25. A printer as defined in claim 4, wherein said plural types include a standard type and a sticker type.

Sub Q4

10. A printing method in which plural types of recording material are usable, comprising steps of:

inputting type information representing a type of recording material;

30. designating one printing mode in accordance with said type information; and

printing an image to said recording material in accordance with said designated printing mode.

11. A printing method as defined in claim 10, wherein said inputting step includes reading said type information stored in an information recording medium.

12. A printing method as defined in claim 11, wherein said recording material has at least one printing region, said printing region being different in a shape or being positioned differently between said plural types;

10 further comprising a step of processing said image for laying out said image in said printing region in accordance with said designated printing mode.

13. A printing method as defined in claim 12, wherein a printer is used to effect said printing step;

15 further comprising steps of:

containing said recording material in a sheet supply container settable in said printer, wherein said information recording medium is secured to said sheet supply container;

20 connecting said information recording medium with said printer in response to setting of said sheet supply container in said printer.

14. A printing method as defined in claim 13, wherein said information recording medium is ROM.

15. A printing method as defined in claim 13, further comprising a step of, in case of lack of reading of said type information from said information recording medium, generating an alarm signal or inhibiting operation of printing.

30 16. A printing method as defined in claim 13, further comprising steps of:

displaying said image being processed; and

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checking a layout state of said image in relation to
said printing region, for confirming said designated printing
mode.

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17. A printing method as defined in claim 13, wherein
5 said plural types include a standard type and a sticker
type.